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Man who claimed CIA tie is indicted

By Milford Prewitt

A Northeast Baltimore man who received money from a bank teller by claiming to be a CIA agent threatened by the Palestine Liberation Organization was indicted yesterday on embezzlement and impersonation charges, the FBI reported.

The man received \$11,500 in funds taken from the savings and loan where his girl friend is employed, and got more money when she drained her mother's retirement fund of \$13,000 and borrowed \$9,000 from a family friend, the FBI said.

Edward D. Hegarty, special agent in charge of the Baltimore FBI office, said the con man received the money from the woman, who had dated the man for about two years, because she was convinced he was in trouble with the PLO.

Assistant U.S. Attorney James P. Yuwick said the man concocted an elaborate story alleging that he was a CIA agent working behind the scenes to free the American hostages in Iran.

Officials said the man was never employed by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The girl friend—an employee of the Hamilton Federal Savings and Loan Association in the 5600 block Harford road—believed the man was being threatened by the PLO for his involvement in the hostage crisis and needed a large amount of money, though it was unclear what he told her it was for.

On three occasions, between June and August of this year, the woman gave the man a total of \$11,500 from the association's accounts. The boy friend told her he needed still more money, so she pleaded with her mother, who withdrew \$13,000 from her retirement fund (which is not at the savings and loan). She also got a \$9,000 loan from a family friend.

Both Mr. Hegarty and Mr. Yuwick said the girl friend will not be charged.

Ferruccio Locco, 36, of the 5700 block Winthrop avenue, was indicted on three counts of aiding and abetting an embezzlement and impersonating a federal officer.

He was arrested September 14.